



July 22, 1976

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Environmental Quality Council, Helena

Department of Fish and Game, Helena

Mr. Clarence Van Dyke, Box 79, R.R. 1, Manhattan

Mr. Raymond Van Dyke, Box 86, R.R. 1, Manhattan

Mr. Richard MacMillan, 1000 No. 17th, Box 88, Bozeman

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
FOR
BLUE RIBBON PORK

Pursuant to the Montana Administrative Code, Section 16-2.2(2)-P2030 (Rule IV), the following preliminary environmental review has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning Blue Ribbon Pork and the request by Mr. Richard MacMillan for a waste discharge permit for the animal confinement facility located west of Bozeman, Montana.

The purpose of this preliminary environmental review is to inform all interested governmental agencies, public groups, or individuals of the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have a significant impact on the human environment. This preliminary environmental review will be circulated for a period of ten days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action. If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within that allotted time.

The animal confinement facility around which this action is centered is located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 6, T.2S., R.4E., of Gallatin County. The location of this site is indicated on Figure No. 1.


The total confinement swine facility was constructed quite some time ago but has not been in use during the past several years. Mr. MacMillan proposes to reopen these facilities utilizing only a portion of the original building complex which would accommodate approximately 600 animals. These livestock will be totally confined within buildings except for a few animals which will be held in a pasture situation adjacent to the buildings. Waste material which is generated by the livestock in confinement will drop through the slatted portion of the floor and into liquid manure pits located beneath the building. The waste material which accumulates within the storage facility will then be periodically removed and disposed of in a liquid state on nearby agricultural land. Approximately 1,000 acres of adjacent farmland is available for waste disposal. The waste

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material will then be utilized for its nutrient value with little, if any, detrimental effects to the soil or crops in that area.

Flies around the animal confinement facility will be controlled through a routine spraying program. Dead animals will be disposed of through burial at an acceptable site.

Any animal confinement facility will have an effect on the surrounding environment, but adverse environmental effects can be minimized through adherence to a good waste management program. Our office has never received complaints of odor problems associated with this animal confinement facility in the past, and no such problems would be anticipated with the reopening of this facility. The only alternative available to Mr. MacMillan would be relocation of the existing animal confinement facility. The entire area surrounding this site is currently utilized primarily for agricultural production, and it would be difficult to find a site which would be more acceptable. There are no known historical or archaeological sites which would in any way be affected by the reopening of the existing facility; and by reopening an existing operation, it should not place unusual demands on additional environmental resources. If the waste management program as outlined in the permit application form is strictly adhered to, the operation should result in minimal adverse environmental impact.


Steven L. Pilcher
Water Quality Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division

SLP:vlf
Attachment
cc: Ben Wake
Air Quality Bureau

Figure 1

ANCENEY QUADRANGLE
MONTANA

15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

3775 I
(BELGRADE)



Blue
Ribbon
River

(BOZEMAN)
3775 II

